Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-07 CIAE-00

RSC-01 PRS-01 /035 W

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R 032121Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2420

C OIJ F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 0046

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINT, DR

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH PRESIDENT BALAGUER - THE POLITICAL SITUATION

REF: SD 42

1. DURING CONVERSATION REPORTED REFTEL, THE SUBJECT TURNED TO POLITICS. I MENTIONED SOME OF TH MAIN POINTS OF BALAGUER'S AUGUST INAUGURAL SPEECH (CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT OF NO-SUCCESSION, NEW FACES IN GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF POLITICAL STRUCTURE) AND INQUIRED WHERE HE THOUGHT HE STOOD IN THOSE RESPECTS. BALAGUER NOTED THAT HE HAD SUBMITTED THE NO-SUCCESSION CONSITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO THE LEGISLATURE AND OBSERVED THAT IT WAS DANGEROUS TO PUSH IT AT THIS TIME SINCE HE MIGHT LOSE POLITICAL POWER BY BEING CONSIDERED A LAME-DUCK. HE ASSERTED THAT HE INTENDED TO PUSH THE AMENDMENT "AT THE RIGHT TIME."

2. BALAGUER ALSO NOTED THAT HE HAD JUST APPOINTED SEVERAL OPPOSITION PERSONALITIES TO POSITIONS IN HIS GOVERNMENT. HE CONTINUED THAT IT HAD PROVED IMPOSSIBLE TO PERSUADE THE PARTIES AS SUCH TO JOIN IN THE GOVERNMENT--THEY PREFERRED TO REMAIN IN THE OPPOSITION--AND HE HAD DONE THE NEXT BEST THING BY PERSUADING SOME INDIVIDUALS TO JOIN HIS GOVERNMENT. ESSENTIALLY, HE FELT THAT HE HAD GONE AS FAR AS HE COULD, ALTHOUGH HE MIGHT POSSIBLE PERSUADE A FEW MORE TO JOIN. CONFIDENTIAL

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3. HE DID NOT EXPECT ANY	UNUSUAL POLITICAL	DEVELOPMENTS	DURING
THE YEAR			

4. COMMENT: IN ALL, IT WOULD SEEM THAT 1975 WILL BE A TYPICAL BALAGUER YEAR DURING WHICH HE WILL CONTINUE HIS CENTRALIZED STYLE OF GOVERNMENT, QUITE FIRMLY IN THE SADDLE. HURWITCH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 03 JAN 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SANTO00046

Document Number: 1975SANTO00046
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D750004-0001 From: SANTO DOMINGO Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750179/aaaacrni.tel Line Count: 68

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION ARA Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: 75 SD 42

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: GolinoFR

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 08 SEP 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 SEP 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <09 SEP 2003 by GolinoFR>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JÚL 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: MEETING WITH PRESIDENT BALAGUER - THE POLITICAL SITUATION

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, DR, (BALAGUER, JOAQUIN)
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006